



Welcome to Worship
Sanford church of Christ





Apathy

— is the —

SILENT KILLER

— of a —

Christian's faith!

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, 8 do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, 9 where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. 10 Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ 11 As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’” 12 Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. 13 But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. 15 As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

Hebrews 3:7 – 15 (ESV)

WHAT DOES A
HARDENED
HEART
LOOK LIKE?



PHARAOH HARDENING HIS HEART



GOD SENT WARNING.
PHARAOH **REFUSED**.



PLAGUE AFTER PLAGUE
CAME.



INSTEAD OF REPENTING,
HE **HARDENED** HIS HEART.



EACH REFUSAL MADE
HIS HEART **HARDER**.



*20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,
who put darkness for light and light for darkness,
who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!*

Isaiah 5:20 (ESV)

1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, 2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared, 3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

1 Timothy 4:1 – 3 (ESV)

Has your
HEART
— ❖ —
become
HARDENED?



5 The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart.

Genesis 6:5 – 6 (ESV)

What kinds

of

THINGS

are you

THINKING

ABOUT?

“As a man thinketh
in his heart, so is he.
PROVERBS 23:7”



20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

Romans 1:20 – 23 (ESV)

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless.

Romans 1:28 – 31 (ESV)

DOES **SIN** — STILL — EFFECT — YOUR — CONSCIENCE?

GUILT
•
CONVICTION
•
REMORSE
•
OR
•
SILENCE?

A SEARED CONSCIENCE
DOESN'T ALWAYS SPEAK...
BUT GOD STILL DOES.

“For by your words you will be justified,
and by your words you will be condemned.”

— Matthew 12:37

17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

Ephesians 4:17 – 19 (ESV)

20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!— 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:20 – 24 (ESV)



WARNING SIGNS



1. Sin no longer shocks you.



2. You excuse what you once condemned.



3. You feel less guilty than before.



4. Repentance becomes rare.

32 Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Romans 1:32 (ESV)

DO YOU
ENDORSE

THE SIN
of
OTHERS?



He who covers a transgression seeks love,
but he who repeats a matter **separates friends.**

– PROVERBS 17:9

1 CORINTHIANS 5:1–8

GOD CALLS HIS PEOPLE TO HOLINESS.

- 1 It is actually reported that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife.
- 2 You are arrogant! Oughtn't you rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be **removed** from your midst.
- 3 For though I am absent in the body, yet I am present in spirit; and as if present, I have already **pronounced judgment** on the one who did such a thing.
- 4 When you are **assembled in the name of the Lord Jesus**, and my spirit is present, with the power of our Lord Jesus,
- 5 you are to **deliver this man to Satan** for the destruction of the flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord.
- 6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a **little leaven leavens the whole lump**?
- 7 **Get rid of the old leaven**, that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed.
- 8 Therefore let us keep the Feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of **sincerity and truth**.

THE MESSAGE:

Sin in the church must be taken seriously. God calls us to purity, truth, and love—so that His church may reflect His holiness.



HOLINESS PROTECTS THE CHURCH. REPENTANCE RESTORES THE SOUL.

Let us pursue purity, guard one another in love, and keep our eyes on Jesus.

— 2 CORINTHIANS 7:1 —

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: 10 “Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ 13 But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:9 – 14 (ESV)

DOES YOUR
PRIDE

KEEP YOU
FROM
REPENTING
OF SIN?

God opposes the proud
but gives grace to
the humble.”

JAMES 4:6



*18 Pride goes before destruction, and a
haughty spirit before a fall.*

Proverbs 16:18 (ESV)

ACTS 8:14–24

SIMON TRIED TO BUY THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- 14** When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.
- 15** When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might **receive the Holy Spirit**.
- 16** For as yet the **Holy Spirit had not come** on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- 17** Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and **they received the Holy Spirit**.
- 18** When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money
- 19** and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."
- 20** But Peter said to him, "**May your money perish with you**, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!"
- 21** You have no part or share in this matter, for **your heart is not right before God**.
- 22** **Repent** of this wickedness and pray to the Lord. Perhaps he will forgive you for having such a thought in your heart."
- 23** For I see that you are **full of bitterness and captive to sin**."
- 24** Simon answered, "Pray to the Lord for me. I know that **I have done a very wicked thing**."

KEY LESSONS

- The Holy Spirit is a gift from God—not for sale.
- Salvation and spiritual blessings cannot be earned or bought.
- A changed heart, not money, is what God requires.



GOD'S GIFTS ARE GIVEN BY GRACE, NOT BY PRICE.

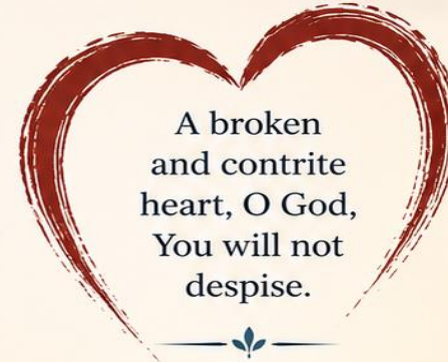
Repent, turn to Him, and He will forgive and restore.

PSALMS 51:10–12

10 Create in me a **clean heart**,
O God, and renew a
steadfast spirit within me.

11 Do not cast me from Your **presence**,
and do not take Your **Holy Spirit**
from me.

12 Restore to me the **joy of**
Your **salvation**, and uphold
me with a **willing spirit**.



PSALMS 51:17



GOD DESIRES A HEART THAT IS CLEAN, FAITHFUL, AND DEVOTED TO HIM.
He forgives, restores, and makes all things new.

WILL YOU
ALLOW GOD

TO

soften

YOUR
HEART?

